

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

6 APRIL 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. South Korea

a. A member of the junta, claiming to speak for General Pak, has suggested a compromise solution to the political impasse which may prove acceptable to the civilian opposition.

b. Under the plan, tested out on our Embassy yesterday, the junta will put off calling for an immediate referendum on the continuation of military rule. A decision on whether to reschedule the referendum or to hold elections for a civilian government would be taken next fall. Political activity could, in the meantime, be resumed.

c. The opposition has given some indication that it would go along with such a plan, provided the junta makes clear that it intends to hold elections.

2. Brazil-
political

a. Rio de Janeiro is uneasy over the threat of federal intervention directed against the staunchly anti-Communist state governor, Carlos Lacerda.

(Cont'd)

b. Goulart, who last week sent federal troops into Rio in the wake of Lacerda's ban on the pro-Castro rally, has through his actions created an atmosphere of alarm, accompanied by troop alerts, in the city. Brazilian leftists, among them Goulart's vociferous brother-in-law Brizola, have kept the edge on the tension by demanding federal intervention which would open the way for Lacerda's ouster.

c. Such a move carries the risk for Goulart of bringing on a show-down with the Brazilian center and right. His anti-Communist War Minister has already expressed strong opposition. This could be enough to make Goulart think twice.

3. Brazil-US

a. President Goulart has signed a decree setting up a special committee to review the agreement with the US on the purchase of American-owned utilities.

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4. Laos

a. Kong Le continued to report yesterday that the neutralist garrison at Xieng Khouang was under Pathet Lao bombardment.

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b. Our latest information indicates that Xieng Khouang is still in Kong Le's hands.

c. Souvanna [redacted] will try to get an ICC team to the Plaine des Jarres today and is considering a personal visit in company with Prince Souphannovong.

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(Cont'd)

d. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the situation in Laos is precarious, but the conflict remains essentially localized in the vicinity of Xieng Khouang town. A continuation of the Pathet Lao attacks could result in an early reaction by FAR and Meo forces and could also result in larger scale fighting.

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5. Poland

a. The Gomulka government may have a major problem on its hands growing out of its economic policies.

b. Price increases on coal, gas, electricity and other fuels, recently decreed, have provoked an angry public reaction across the country. Both city dwellers and farmers are interpreting the decree as a damaging assault on their pocket-books and living standards.

c. Reports reaching the US Embassy in Warsaw assert that Gomulka was called to one of Poland's principal industrial plants earlier this week to help stave off a strike and that strikes have broken out in the Silesian coal fields.

6. Canadian election

a. Our Embassy in Ottawa [redacted] sees little chance that the Liberals will win a majority in Monday's election but thinks the probability of a plurality is fairly high.

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b. Diefenbaker's [redacted]

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[redacted] failure to generate enthusiasm in Quebec province is [redacted] dampening his prospects.

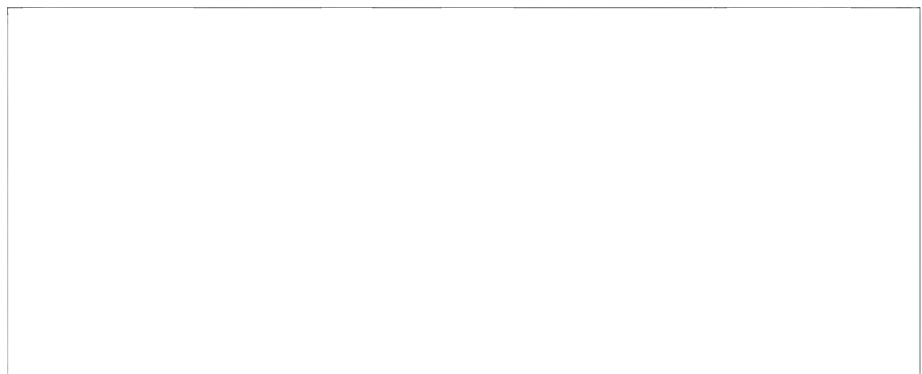
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c. One pollster reports that three out of ten Canadians are so alienated by the low level on which the campaign has been run that they may stay at home on Monday.

d. There is rising speculation that Diefenbaker will refuse to step down, and thus touch off a constitutional crisis, if the Liberals win only a narrow plurality.

7. Cuba

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8. Dominican Republic

a. Leaders of the political parties opposed to Bosch were meeting late yesterday to prepare a declaration of condemnation, and protest demonstrations are scheduled for today following an encounter yesterday between police and members of the opposition.

b. The incident occurred when police moved into a TV station and attempted to block a broadcast by one of Bosch's most outspoken critics. In the scuffling which followed, two opposition members were wounded. One of the wounded men was shown on TV.

c.
 uneasy situation and see some danger of a breakdown in public order.

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NOTES

- A. Argentina The revolt leaders have bowed to a set of government terms which are extremely severe by the standards customarily applied. Those rebel leaders who have not fled to Uruguay will be put on trial.

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- C. Dominican Republic-Haiti Bosch is continuing to make Haiti his major preoccupation. He has told Ambassador Martin that he is convinced there will be trouble there before 15 May and wants to encourage Duvalier's opposition by "all measures short of crossing the frontier."

- D. West Germany Foreign Minister Schroeder told Ambassador Stevenson when they met on Wednesday that if the MLF does not come into being the Germans will ultimately seek equal status with Britain and France in the nuclear club.

- E. Soviet lunar probe Moscow's silence on the outcome of the probe probably means that it did not achieve its intended mission.

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DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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